16. Pimpalgaon
17. Ukni
18. Chargaon
19. Kawadi
20. New Majri
21. Sirna
22. Telwasa
23. Kamptee
24. Gondegaon
25. Umrer

Statement-II

NAME OF UNDERGROUND MINES IN MAHARASHTRA WHERE MECHANISATION HAS BEEN INTRODUCED

1. Saoner UG Mine No. 1
2. Saoner UG Mine No. 2
3. Saoner UG Mine No. 3
4. Makardhokra-II UG Mine
5. Ballarpur UG Mine
6. Sasti UG Mine
7. Rajur UG Mine
8. Hindustan Lalpeth UG Mine
9. Patansaongi UG Mine
10. New Majri UG Mine
11. Nakoda UG Mine

World Bank loan for prevention of fire in Jharia Coal Field

479. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank is about to sanction or has sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4,000 crores for tackling fire and its related problems of Jharia Coal Field;

(b) if so, the name of the agency which prepared the plan for rehabilitation and to safeguard Jharia Coal Field from disaster;

(c) what is the cost of planning/ feasibility study or report;

(d) the basis on which loan has been sanctioned;

(e) whether feasibility study covered evacuation and rehabilitation of inhabitants of the area;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, it is to be mentioned that with the objective of finding a long-term solution to the problem of Jharia Coalfield fires, a detailed diagnostic study was undertaken under the Jharia Mine Fire Control Technical Assistance Project with World Bank assistance. World Bank sanctioned a credit of US $ 12 million against the total cost of the project estimated as US$14.3 million. This project has two components—one for development of fire fighting programme for each of the known fires in Jharia Coalfield and the other for preparing an Environmental Management Plan with the objective of mitigating the adverse effect of mining operations on the environment and the people living in the area.

(b) For fire fighting programme an International consultant namely, M/s. GAI-METCHEM Joint Venture USA/ Canada having extensive experience in the control of mine fires had been engaged, while for Environmental Management Plan, an International Consultant namely M/s. Norwest Mine Services Limited Canada having extensive experience in preparation of Environmental Management Plan had been appointed to work in close liaison with Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

(c) to (g) The total cost of Jharia Mine Fire Control Technical Assistance Project had been estimated as US $ 14.3 million, of which the World Bank sanctioned a credit of US$12million. The diagnostic study has been completed and report submitted. As per the report, 10,800 families are residing in the high risk zone of environmental pollution.

News-item "CBI frames five officials of Super Bazar"

480. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of

FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item captioned "CBI frames five officials of Super Bazar" appeared in the 'Time's of India' dated 15th April, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether misappropriation of funds came to the notice of the Government; if so, the amount involved;

(d) whether any FIR has been lodged in this connection;

(e) whether it is a fact that these officers have not been suspended even after the registration of FIR by the CBI; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi the surprise check and inspection conducted by the Vigilance Department of their branch at New Friends Colony, Delhi, had revealed that branch officials of the Super Bazar through connivance and conspiracy as well as manipulation committed various acts of commission and omission resulting in misappropriation and stock shortages amounting to Rs. 6,17,094.67. On the basis of the above finding, 5 officials of the Super Bazar, Delhi working in that branch during the period were put under suspension on 4.11.1996.

(d) to (f) In view of the seriousness of the matter, the Super Bazar Management referred the case to the CBI which has registered an FIR on 22.04.1997 involving 3 officials who were already under suspension and two more accounts officials pertaining to the Regional Distribution Centre of Super Bazar at Trilok Puri.

Edible Oil Industry Faces Crisis

481. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 11th July, 1997 under the caption "Edible Oil Industry faces crisis";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the observations made therein and facts of the matter regarding extent of crisis being faced by edible oil industry, State-wise;

(c) the details of representations received by Government from various organizations; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed to be taken both short term and long term for revival, upgradation, modernisation and development of edible oil industry sector in the country during 1997-98 and Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUBANS PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is of the view that the prevailing custom duty provides reasonable protection to the domestic industry. In the context of the persistent shortfall in demand availability of edible oils, import of edible oils (except a few exceptions) has been placed under OGL so as to ensure their availability at reasonable prices to the consumers. The Vegetable Oil Policy has to harmonise the interests of the producers, farmers, processors and consumers.

(c) and (d) Government has also received representation from the Solvent Extractors' Association of India in this regard. Some of the measures taken, both short term and long term, for development of vegetable oil industry are:—

(i) The ongoing Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) provides essential assistance to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of